

Bulletin Sentence: 1 Corinthians 1:9 "God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." The faithfulness of God is our great comfort. He has made promises to us and He will keep them. He is kind and loving toward us and will not break faith with us. This gives us the confidence to step out in faith, to leave fear behind. So when it comes to following the Lord's commandments for our daily lives: we know His will is best for us because our God is faithful.

Church Attendance November 23, 25 & 26 2017
Thursday: 141 Saturday:143 (C102) Sunday: 170 (C129)

Offerings November Thanksgiving 23 \$4,211.90 and 25 & 26 2017
\$ 7,506.46 (Weekly need is \$11,461.54)

Those serving this weekend:

Organist: A. Koch

Alter Guild for November: JoAnn Satkowiak 989-662-6910

Sat: ELDERS: Mark Steih and Dennis Hyatt
USHERS: Jan Davenport, Victoria & Nancy Campfield,
and Tom Kawalkowski

Sun: ELDERS: Kevin Miller and Bill Kohn
USHERS: Paige, Jason & Morgan Trevillian and Elijah Keyser

Pastors:

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Welcome

I was glad when they said to me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

December 2 & 3, 2017

Psalm 122:1

The mission of Zion Lutheran
is to better know & show Christ's love.

Worship Whys: Why is this season called Advent? The word "advent" is from the Latin word for "coming," and as such, describes the "coming" of our Lord Jesus Christ into the flesh. Advent specifically focuses on Christ's "coming," but Christ's coming manifests itself among us in three ways--past, present, and future. The readings which highlight Christ's coming in the past focus on the Old Testament prophecies of his incarnation at Bethlehem. The readings which highlight Christ's coming in the future focus on his "second coming" on the Last Day at the end of time. And the readings which highlight Christ's coming in the present focus on his ministry among us through Word and Sacrament today.

Large Print Bulletins are available from an usher and may be helpful to our guests, making it easier to follow the service without using a hymnal.

Children's bulletins are also available from an usher.

Zion's Web Site: www.zionbeaver.com The website contains the most recent church newsletter, and information about activities at Zion.

Our Focus today is on the first week of Advent. We are called by Jesus to be on guard. We use Advent to get ready for Christ to return on the last day and we use Advent to get ready for remembering Christ's first coming at Christmas. During Advent we focus on the coming of Jesus at Christmas and prepare our hearts to welcome Him as the Savior born at Bethlehem.

This week at Zion

Sun	03	Worship 9 AM Voter's meeting 10 AM Sunday School 10 AM Jr. Confirmation Class 6-8 PM
Mon	04	Adult Choir 7PM
Wed	06	Ladies Bible Class 9 AM Quilting 10 AM Advent Service 6 PM Advent dinner 6:30 PM
Thurs	07	Ladies of Zion Christmas Party 5:30 PM
Fri	08	Santa Store
Sat	09	Adult Bible Study 5:45 PM Worship w/Communion 7 PM
Sun	10	Worship w/ Communion 9 AM Family Bible Hour 10:15 AM Jr. Confirmation Class 6-8 PM

Retable Flowers: are given in thanksgiving for God's blessings on Gary and Cathy Wirsings' 44th wedding anniversary on November 24th.

Memorials: In loving memory of Cliff Thomas a gift has been received to the food pantry from the Trevillian Family.

Pastor's Bible Class and Discussion Class : will not meet today, due to the voters meeting.

Sunday School "God's People Go Home" is the focus for this week's Sunday School lesson. God used unbelieving kings to restore His exiled people to Jerusalem according to His will. God sent Jesus, the King of kings, to Jerusalem to restore His wayward people to Himself forever. As a family, discuss, "What preparations did the people need to make before they returned to Jerusalem? How can you prepare for worship each week?"

Cookie Plate Donations – The Ladies of Zion will be assembling cookie plates for our shut-ins and those who will be served by the Zion Food Pantry for the holidays on Wednesday, December 13. It was very helpful that our congregation members contributed cookies for this project last year, and we invite any who can do so to help us again this year. Please leave your donations in the church basement any time before 9:00 a.m. on December 13.

Midweek Advent Services will be held this year at a different time, on a trial basis. Our services will start at 6PM. There will be a meal to follow Table service and drinks will be provided, everyone is welcome It will be held in the school cafeteria Bring a dish to pass. Thank you the Fellowship team.

Trunk-or-Treat was very well attended again this year. We had face painting, costume contest, booth decorating contest, and craft activities. We want to thank Emily Rosenbrock from our TEAM Assembly for organizing this event. We are celebrating our VETS this year on Friday, November 10th at 10:30 a.m. Activities will start in the cafeteria with a dessert reception and our student presentation will start at 10:55 a.m. in the gym. Our students were given a presentation about Fire Safety, because October is Fire Awareness Month. Our local Beaver Township Fire Department brought in three fire trucks and the smoke house. The smoke house is a simulation of a home full of smoke and instruction/practice is given how to get our safely. Thank you to Beaver Township for supporting our students! We want to invite all congregation members to our weekly Chapel on Wednesdays at 8:10am. Please join us and start your day with our students and the Lord.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Menz / Pastor Hemme

New member class will be wrapping up in the next month, 8 people will likely be joining Zion at the conclusion of the class. Both Zion and Public School Confirmation classes are going well with the pastors rotating units with the Zion kids and weeks with the public school kids. Smorgasbord and Apple Pie making were intense and impressive, thanks to all who helped. Both Pastors, as well as Emily Menz, attended the Michigan District All Pastor's & Wives Conference October 8th -11th The 500th anniversary of the Reformation was celebrated by Zion's members in the following ways: 45 people rode the reformation bus to the Michigan District Reformation 500 service in East Lansing on the 15th. The congregation in attendance at Zion on the 28th and 29th observed Reformation Day. Many attended the Reformation Celebration brunch on the 29th as Pastor Hemme showed slides from his recent trip to Germany. Pastor Menz continues making member visits and they seem to be well received. Commercials were recorded on Monday, October 23rd with FM 100.5 for both church and school. Multiple people heard the commercials throughout the last week. Pastor Hemme was elected the LWML Pastoral Zone Counselor for the next two years. The Youth Group will be putting up Christmas decorations and trees after church on Sunday November 26th. Sunday School Christmas Program is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec 13th during church Pastor Hemme's Vacation plans: November 6-12

Old Business None at this time.

New Business

Budget

11.5.17.D A motion was made, supported and carried to move to a fiscal year of July 1st through June 30th for a trial period of one year. Voters meetings would be held in March, June, September, and December.

A presentation of the preliminary budget for first six months of 2018 was given.

LEAP (Lutheran Education Advancement Plan) Update - Heather Schember has replaced Sarah Diener as Zion's LEAP representative.

2018 Officers A preliminary ballot for 2018 officers was presented. There are still vacancies with a need for nominees.

11.5.17.E A motion was made, supported and carried to designate Pastor Menz and Dean Gray as the Circuit Forum representatives and Michigan District Convention delegates.

11.5.17.F A motion was made, supported and carried to adjourn the meeting.

Pastor Menz closed the meeting with Prayer

In His service,
Megan Keyser

Cemetery update: Phase one of the road project is complete. Phase two, asphalt and landscaping will begin in the summer of 2018. Memorials or donations are very much appreciated. Make checks payable to Zion Lutheran Church Cemetery. Thank you and Merry Christmas.

of the outreach of the individual congregations. Zion's door, designed and painted by Mrs. List, shows the Luther seal with a few illustrations of Zion's many mission activities. There were other activities that many people could take part in, but they were packed with participants. As we found our seats inside the arena we were grateful to be able to sit down and enjoy the inspiring choir concert by 3 honor choirs (grades 4-6, 7-9, and high school and college) made up of Michigan District kids. Zion's Sylvia List, grade 8, participated. Then the worship service began with the hymn "Come, Holy Ghost God and Light." The preacher, Rev. Dr. Ferry, President of Concordia Wisconsin/Ann Arbor spoke on the theme "Here We Stand, Here We Go!" Karen Reincke from Immanuel, Macomb led the children's message reminding us that only Jesus can take away our sins. Many of the hymns were led by the 1200 member adult choir and an orchestra led by Concordia's music director, Dr. Brian Altevogt. Once the service was completed and we loaded back on the bus, we were thrilled to receive the "snack sacks" provided by the Ladies of Zion. They included fruit, cookies, granola bars, chocolate, chips, and cheese sticks. Thank you Ladies! What a wonderful day! To view the choir concert and worship service, go online to the Michigan District You Tube channel. Advent: December 6th, 13th, & 20th, will be our Advent services. Jesus birthday party will be on the 13th. Welcome baskets: A donation board was displayed in the church with requests for supplies for more welcome baskets to be put together. We are very happy with the distribution of welcome baskets to people in our community. What a great way to "Know and Show God's Love"!

Board of Youth – Krista Klein

The Youth Group had a hayride, games, snacks, and bonfire on Saturday, October 28th, 8-10pm. Thank you to those that made the hayride a 'scary' one and for all those that brought snacks. It was a chilly but fun time, and there was a great turn-out of 30 youth, ranging from 6-12th grades. The date and time of Sunday, November 26th, right after church, is slated to help decorate the church for Christmas. And, the Zion junior high dance including the area Lutheran schools is set for December 9th, 7-10 p.m. One out of seven nominees has accepted to remain on the nomination list. There will be three vacancies.

Valley Lutheran Report – Jim Klein

The VLHS Booster Club is selling citrus fruit, the sale ends November 10th. Twenty five students were inducted into the National Honor Society, including some Zion alumni. Many events were held recently at Valley, including a middle school volleyball tournament, a powderpuff football game, and the PSATs were administered. On Saturday, December 10th the Valley Lutheran Christmas Concert will be held at The Temple Theatre in Saginaw. The Fall Information Night is on November 28th for those wishing to learn more about VLHS.

School Staff Report – Colett Dominowski

We recently ended our first marking period at the end of October. Teachers are working hard at scheduling parent-teacher conferences. Volleyball season is almost over and Zion's A and B team are both undefeated. We will host home games on Nov. 2nd and 7th to finish the season. The A-team will host the League tournament here at our school on Nov 10-11. Please come support your Beavers to victory! Our 3rd/4th grade visited WNEM's weather station and represented our school well! Not only did they learn about what it takes to make a news/weather broadcast but they actually made the news. Our students' interviews were aired on the News at Noon and again at 6pm on October 27th. They will also "Wake-Up Mid-Michigan" on November 3rd. You can also check out their visit on WNEM's Facebook page. The 5th-8th graders visited Weiss's Farm in Frankenmuth. They worked their way through the large and detailed corn maze, which included Luther's Seal in the design. They were able to watch modern technology at its best as Weiss's Farm uses computers and robots to milk the cows. A big thank you to everyone that helped make this year's APPLE PIE time a great success. We made 2,462 pies in three days! Jodi Kukla and Megan Keyser and the rest of the Apple Pie Committee did an amazing job putting this fundraiser together. This is our biggest fundraiser for the school and they use the proceeds to improve the student experience at Zion.

Faces of the Reformation Bible Study will not be meeting. Classes will resume after the Christmas holiday season.

Looking ahead the Santa Store is on the horizon, December 8th is the big day. Donations are still being accepted, if you can volunteer some time help is needed on Thursday, December 7th from 1:00 PM to 4 and on Friday, December 8th from 8AM until 3PM. Lunch will be provided. For more information call 989-662-4650.

Christmas Candy - If you are interested in donating candy and/or money for the Christmas goody bags for the students, donations can be dropped off at the church office, no later than December 15th. If you have any questions please contact Colett Dominowski at 662-4264.

Artists and Crafters! Zion is hosting its second annual Holiday Bazaar on December 13th from 2pm –7pm in connection with Jesus' Birthday Party. Tables are available from \$20 to \$25 on a first come first serve basis. You can find more information on the sign up sheet located in the narthex.

6 Welcome Baskets are ready for delivery, if you take one please write down who you are giving this basket to on the note pad provided on the shelf, this eliminates the possibility of a person receiving more than one basket.

The Zion Food Pantry is well stocked! Thank you to all who generously shared non-perishable food at Thanksgiving. Christmas food baskets will be prepared for those in need. Please contact the church office to make a request.

Message from Pastor Mahlburg

Dear Zion Lutheran

O Come, O Come Emmanuel. We are entering the Advent season, looking forward to the celebration of our Lord's birth, and anticipating our Lord's return. We pray the true message of Christmas continues to be spread so that more people will welcome the Lord's return. **I would love to Skype** with your congregation, Bible Study, Men's or Women's group, day school, etc... Please contact me at: smahlburg@yahoo.com to set up a Skype session for a personal update on mission work and life in Sri Lanka. **Thank you** for your continued prayers and financial support. We are truly blessed and comforted knowing that we are in your prayers and that you are our partners in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Sri Lanka.

We will be having a door collection on December 16 & 17th for Pastor Mahlburg and his family.

Voters Meeting Minutes November 5th, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Greg Wirsing. There were 53 voters present. Pastor Hemme opened the meeting with prayer.

Secretary Report – Megan Keyser

11.5.17.A A motion was made, supported and carried to approve the meeting minutes from August 6th, 2017.

Treasurer Report – Jodi Kukla

11.5.17.B A motion was made, supported and carried to approve the Treasurer's report.

Board of Elders –Chris List

Membership changes

New accessions by Baptism: *Robert Grant Hoenicke infant son of Scott & Kathleen Hoenicke, September 24, 2017.*

Kayden Adam Morand, infant son of Adam Mathewson and Ellen Morand, October 18th, 2017.

Brynnlee Jo Barber, infant daughter of Brett and Shannon Barber, October 21st, 2017.

Members Removed by transfer to an LC-MS congregation: *Alfred (Al) Pacholke to St. Peters, Hemlock, MI. Kathleen Fick-Gee to First Lutheran Church, Clearwater, FL.*

Cami Cumper and her daughter Isabel to Messiah Lutheran, Midland.

MaryAnn Koch to Trinity Lutheran Church, Muskegon MI.

By release to other denominations: *Stephen & Jennifer Miller and Children Abigail & Joshua to St. Matthew's Anglican Church Weaverville, NC.*

11.5.17.C A motion was made, supported and carried to approve the membership changes.

Advent Worship Service: The Elders have proposed that the time of the Advent services be changed to 6 p.m. with dinner to follow. This would be a trial for this Advent season and would be approved by the Elders. A show of hands indicated approval of those in attendance.

The elders are reviewing attendance reports for their districts. Over the next couple months they will be trying to make contact with those on their list who have not attended a worship service as Zion since 2013. They will also be looking at the list to try to identify individual whose attendance in 2016 was significantly lower than 2015. They will try to determine circumstances that prevented them from attending more in 2016, i.e.; change in works schedule, now a "shut-in" but never notified the church office, or other problems or issues.

The elders are reviewing the attendance reports for their districts to identify two families from their district where attendance has drop compared to years past. Then over the next 12 months the elders and one of the pastors will be visiting 2 of the families identified each month together to determine circumstances that prevented them from attending more often.

Board of Trustees – Martha Currie presented by Chris Keyser

Our last meeting was on Thursday, October 26th, at 6:30 PM. The following trustees attended: Martha Currie; Chris Keyser; Jeremy Rosenbrock, Terry Wegener and Chuck Datte.

Completed Jobs at the Church:

1. The gutters were cleaned out on the north side of the church to assist with draining issues in the northeast corner.
2. The flat roof over the northwest corner of the church (west entry door area) was cleaned of years of debris, leaves, moss, etc.

The work on the east cemetery road is complete or near complete.

Completed Jobs at the School:

1. A broken section of the window in the school boiler room was replaced with a piece of Plexiglas.
2. The pavilion is being winterized. Trustees are working with Roy Kohn to organize the winterizing. Picnic tables will be stored once winterizing is complete.

A lock cylinder was replaced on the east end of the school. Waste Management Contract: The rising cost of refuse disposal was brought to the attention of council by Jodi Kukla. General rising costs and a handful of extra charges for the dumpster being over-filled prompted the research of a larger dumpster and collecting other bids. Utilizing alternate, lower bids, Waste Management brought their prices down and will be providing a six yard dumpster starting in December. This change has potential to save our congregation over \$4,000 over the remaining three years of the contract with Waste Management. Grant Application – Water Bottle Filling Station for the School A grant through Delta Dental was identified and applied for. Zion currently has traditional drinking fountains. While these fountains have historically been used, more and more students and teachers are using water bottles. Water bottles not only promote drinking more water in general, but they also help prevent spreading illness. The grant through Delta Dental, if received, would cover the cost of one new drinking water station, combined with a water bottle filling station, and installation costs, for the main hallway of the school. Results of the application are expected to be back by the end of November. Snow Removal Bid – 2017 / 2018 The snow removal bid for this winter season has been awarded to Sequin Lawn and Snow, LLC. \$384.00 for each snow removal occurrence and \$435.00 for each salt application. If at any point in the season, a loader is needed, it would cost an additional \$145.00. Mike and Colett Dominowski are the snow removal / salt application communicators for Zion and will work directly with Sequin for all snow and ice removal needs. All snow and ice requests need to go directly through Mike and / or Colett.

Board of Christian Day School - Tonya Kuizenga

A joint BCDS/Teaching staff meeting was held immediately prior to the BCDS meeting. The school year is going well so far, and the teaching staff has no major concerns at this time. A call list for the 5th/6th grade teacher position will likely arrive in 11/2017. After lengthy discussion, Aftercare fees and guidelines of use will continue as is for the current school year. The BCDS will continue to look for ways to improve the program to best suit the needs of our parents and Zion, with any needed changes effective with the 2018-2019 school year.

Board of Parish Education - Gail Wegener presented by Angela Riske

Sunday school: The Sunday school classes are going well and the teachers are doing a great job, with an average attendance of 12 children each week. There was no Sunday school on the 29th of October because of the Reformation Celebration. There will be Sunday school for the children on November 5th during the Voters meeting, the children will meet in the back of the church and be taken over to the school. The Christmas program for the Sunday school students will be on Wednesday December 13th with a mandatory practice / rehearsal on Sunday December 10th. This year's offerings collected with go towards a family through the "Adopt a family" program. This year's offerings collected with go towards a family through the "Adopt a family" program. Reformation: October 29th we had a brunch in the gym to celebrate the Reformation, kicking off with a presentation from Pastor Hemme about his trip to Germany with Patty. It was quite interesting, and we appreciated him sharing that with us, particularly him peeking in at Martin Luther's often used commode! On October 15 about 45 of Zion's members joined other LCMS Michigan District congregations at the 500th anniversary of the Reformation "Here We Stand" worship service at the Breslin Center in E. Lansing. The arena was packed with about 12,000 people. Some of Zion's members drove there themselves, while about 50 people rode the Blue Lakes Charter bus which included about 10 people from sister congregations. Many thanks to the Endowment Fund for funding the majority of the cost of the ! Thanks to Mark and Jenny Steih for transporting Zion's contribution of pillows and men's socks and underwear for the City Rescue Mission of Lansing. Thanks to a couple of generous Zion members, we enjoyed delicious Grand Traverse Pie Co. box lunches just prior to arriving at the Breslin Center. Thank you! Once we entered the Breslin Center the excitement began to build rapidly inside us as the concourse quickly filled with fellow Lutherans attempting to view the many different decorated doors depicting some